

The Broad Ax

HEW TO THE LINE.

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NO. 37.

OUR TICKET.

FOR PRESIDENT,

WILLIAM J. BRYAN OF NEBRASKA.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

ADLAI E. STEVENSON OF ILLINOIS.

THE NEGRO NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE.

Against the advice of Edward E. Lee, A. E. Manning, James A. Ross, J. Milton Turner and many other Afro-American Democrats as well as some of the white leaders of the Democratic party. Secretary Geo. E. Taylor could not be deterred from calling a meeting of the members of the said league to assemble in national convention at Kansas City, Mo. at the same time of the National convention, and time has proven unmistakably that all who opposed it upon the theory that it might prove to be a failure or unsuccessful were laboring under misapprehensions and that Mr. Taylor was absolutely correct in calling it to meet at Kansas City, Mo., July 4 to 6.

The convention was held in one of the large court rooms. Representatives were actually present from 30 states and territories. Men of standing in the race participated in its deliberations from as far east as New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. As far South as West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas and Arkansas, and as far West as California, Idaho, Indian Territory, Montana, Minnesota, S. Dakota and Nebraska and it simply means that Colored men residing at those remote points who paid out their own money for railway transportation and other expenses in order to attend a convention of Negro Democrats are in earnest in their loyalty to the cause of Democracy, if they were not so, it does not stand to reason that they would spend their time and money in that direction for the fun of it.

Wednesday morning July 4th, the first session of the 6th biennial Negro National Democratic Convention was called to order by Geo. E. Taylor its retiring secretary who very briefly reviewed its history since his connection with it as secretary. At the conclusion of his address, Lawrence A. Newby of Chicago read the Declaration of Independence and acted as assistant secretary. W. T. Scott of Cairo, Ill., was chosen as temporary chairman and his address was full of good common sense. He said "There are men who are political cowards, who have not the manhood and courage of their convictions. They still fear their political masters. My advice to you is to be governed by the great issues now confronting the American people and decide your vote, as other nationalities and vote for the best interests of all concerned."

"The Constitution is broad and strong enough to protect the humblest citizen when properly enforced as it will be by the party of the people. I make the statement here to-day, without fear of successful contradiction that ninety five per cent of the intelligent Negroes of the country are against Wm. McKinley and his administration, for the manner in which they have been treated by said Imperialistic administration. This league with its thorough organization in each state as it will be headed by an acknowledged leader and organizer, will cast seven hundred thousand votes for that matchless statesman and advocate of the common people, Wm. Jennings Bryan our next President."

At the mention of Colonel Bryan's name a prolonged shout went up from the throats of the 300 and over delegates present.

The other temporary officers were W. J. Johnson, Secretary, Topeka, Kans.; Col. James Beck, Port Scott, Assistant Secretary; Theodore Frye, New Jersey, Sergeant-at-Arms; Geo. J. Therrell Illinois; Edward Thompson and B. B. Tully, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms. J. Milton Turner, Ind.; addressed the convention and before it adjourned F. L. McGhee, of St. Paul, Minn., also spoke at considerable length and urged that a committee of 25 be selected to prepare an address setting forth the reasons why the Afro-Americans should no longer blindly follow the Republican party.

H. C. Carter, Illinois, J. H. Lynch,

Montana; J. Girder, Missouri; J. W. B. Grant, Kansas and L. T. Allen, Iowa, composed the committee on credentials. The committee on permanent organization consisted of A. E. Manning, Indianapolis, Ind.; Julius F. Taylor, Chicago; H. R. Graham, Kansas City, Mo.; J. L. Edmonds, Los Angeles, Cal. and R. W. Lester, Helena, Kans. The resolution committee composed J. H. W. Howard, Harrisburg, Pa.; S. A. T. Watkins, Illinois; C. J. Walker, Kansas City, Mo.; F. L. McGhee, St. Paul, Minn. and James A. Ross, Buffalo, N. Y.

The night of July 4 the greatest and most magnificent parade in the history of Kansas City, or in any other city west of Chicago, occurred, and the part which the members of the Negro National Democratic League played in it, will not be forgotten as long as Kansas City stands and as long as there is one single individual left to record the deeds and acts of men.

According to the Kansas City times and the other papers which contained accurate reports of the number of men composing the various clubs which participated in the parade 310 Afro-American Democrats with badges on the lapels of their coats marched in the procession headed by a colored band of 22 pieces. Geo. E. Taylor, W. T. Scott and two friends rode in an open carriage, holding aloft a large-sized picture of Colonel Bryan, and it was the most striking feature of the entire parade. For over five miles as the parade wended its way through the human banks of people, they continued to applaud the Negro Democrats and the portrait of Bryan, and we felt that after all of these years of persecution and abuse which has been heaped upon us, and on all other Negro Democrats, that we had been transported to a new world and had caught a faint glimpse of a brighter and more glorious future for our race, and from that night we took a sacred vow unto ourselves that nothing or no obstacle could prevent us from continuing to assist in eradicating from the minds of the race the idea that they must continue to be the slaves of the Republican party.

The election of officers occurred on Thursday, Geo. E. Taylor of Okaloosa, Iowa, after a spirited contest was elected President by acclamation; W. T. Scott, Cairo, Ill., Vice President; James A. Ross, Buffalo, N. Y., Secretary; Lawrence A. Newby, Chicago, Assistant Secretary; J. L. Edmonds, Los Angeles, Cal., Treasurer. Friday, the last day of the session, the nomination of Bryan and Stevenson, were ratified. The platform was indorsed in its entirety. A resolution was passed thanking J. C. Chastine, publisher of The Messenger, the leading colored Republican newspaper of Missouri, for courtesies extended to members of the league. President Taylor, in his closing address thanked the city press for its generous treatment and spoke in flattering terms of Kansas City, as an entertainer. He said none of the delegates in attendance had any occasion to find fault with the treatment received by the Democratic convention management, as it had passed a resolution in favor of J. Milton Turner, a member of the league, addressing it. In short, Mr. Taylor was informed by Hon. Chas. A. Walsh, J. G. Johnson and other members of the committee that all colored men and women wearing badges, and their friends, would have free access to the convention hall during all of the sessions.

Thursday night and Friday morning the delegates attended in a body. The next session of the league will be held at Ottumwa, Iowa, two years hence. The session just closed was by far the most largely attended and most successful in the league's history and President Geo. E. Taylor is deserving of the very highest commendation for its success.

Too much praise cannot be given to Prof. H. R. Graham, C. J. Walker, Chas. W. Lee, H. H. Johnson, James R. Gordon, L. M. Scholl, J. S. Harris, Ben. McKay, J. B. Gibbs, Dr. J. C. Williams and Attorney P. S. Umbles. The last two gentlemen were not on the arrangement committee, but they did everything in their power to assist it in helping to entertain the visitors and in behalf of the Negro National Democratic League, The Broad Ax desires to thank the committee of ar-

rangement and all others for favors shown its members during their more than pleasant visit to Kansas City.

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION.

It is almost beyond our ability to convey to the readers of The Broad Ax, the immensity of the late Democratic National Convention. The hall in which it was held seated no less than 25,000 to 30,000 people. It was gorgeously decorated with the national

that all who possessed the gift of oratory and those who did not possess it wanted to throw bouquets at his feet. Prince David, the colored delegate from the Hawaiian Islands, also seconded the nomination of Col. Bryan and when he did so ladies stood up in their seats, waved their parasols and expressed their approval of his remarks.

To make a long story short, Colonel Bryan received every vote of the 936 delegates present and he was declared



COL. WM. J. BRYAN.

Unanimously nominated for President of the United States by the united Democracy assembled in National convention at Kansas City, Mo., July 4th.

colors and it was a grand sight to gaze upon those assembled within its walls. Many were there from all parts of the Union and from the isles beyond the seas.

At 12 o'clock noon, July 4, the great convention was called to order by Chairman James K. Jones. Secretary Chas. A. Walsh, read the call and Governor C. S. Thomas, of Colorado, was chosen as temporary chairman. The Declaration of Independence was read, which was a new feature and it caught the people.

Governor Thomas delivered one of his master orations and it thrilled the immense audience with patriotism and loyalty to the Stars and Stripes. But, the greatest oratorical effort during the convention was made by Hon. James D. Richardson, of Tennessee, who was selected as permanent chairman and those who heard him can never forget the honest expression of his countenance as the eloquent words rolled out of his mouth like burning brands of fire, which electrified the people and caused them to break forth in long and loud applause.

When nominating speeches were in order for President, Mr. Oldham, of Nebraska, nominated Colonel Bryan, and we have never witnessed any scenes heretofore, which would compare with the scenes enacted by the people in that convention hall during the deliverance of his nominating speech.

The people were so carried away and swayed by his matchless eloquence that they marched around the hall shouting and yelling for Bryan, tossed their handkerchiefs, canes, hats and coats high up in the air, and almost one hour was consumed by them in giving expression to their unswerving faith in the new leader of Democracy, and as the roll call proceeded the enthusiasm continued and was unabated and the noise and commotion arising from the overjoyous multitude could be heard many miles away from the convention.

The nomination of Colonel Bryan was seconded by the favorite sons of many other states and it seemed

the unanimous nominee for President of the United States.

A lively contest was had over the selection of a running mate for Colonel Bryan, as there were so many able and brilliant men seeking the honor. But a happy selection was made in the person of Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois, who commands the respect of both wings of the party, and his nomination on the first ballot was favorably received by the delegates and the vast number of people who attended the convention. The sons of Illinois have a right to feel proud over the part they played in the Democratic National Convention of 1900.

The Broad Ax also feels proud, for the reason that it was the first newspaper away back in 1895 to mention Colonel Bryan's name in connection with the Presidency and in the nomination of Bryan and Stevenson, who are both ideal Americans and persistent defenders of the common people the silver Republicans, Populists and other reform elements can unite upon them and assist in aiding the leaders of the Democratic party to flood the country with a light of glory unequalled since the Declaration of Independence made the morning stars sing together.

The cotton boll of Concord, N. C., in a recent issue has this to say of The Broad Ax man of Chicago. It is the refinement of irony and sarcasm.

"Julius F. Taylor, the Negro who aspires to be the next C. H. J. Taylor in the democratic ranks, says in the last issue of The Broad Ax that Col. Bryan remarked, 'that with the aid of The Broad Ax he would pull through next November.' and Taylor didn't have sense enough to keep that to himself. That is the reason Bryan failed before. He selected The Broad Ax for his mouthpiece instead of John McLeans' paper."—The Colored American.

Mr. Cotton Boll you are not in a position to state, what paper Col. Bryan used as his official organ in 1896. For at that time those who are now connected with your paper were either

picking cotton, craking a whip over a mule team or preaching the gospel which is one and the same thing. Can you see the point Mr. Cotton Boll?

THE COUNTY DEMOCRACY.

Through the kindness and generosity of James J. Gray, North Town Assessor and member of the board of Assessors of Cook County, we were able to accompany the Cook County Marching Club on its triumphal tour to Kansas City. Last Monday exactly 3 minutes past 2 o'clock the three hundred and odd members of this famous organization and its invited guests boarded the special train over the Burlington route, bound for the convention city, and the trip will long be remembered by all those who were fortunate enough to participate in it as the most successful heretofore made by it.

The train consisted of 14 palaces on wheels and it glided over the track so smoothly that it was hard to realize that you were traveling on the cars. The first stop was made at Aurora and there amidst the cheering of several thousand people who had assembled on the platform and around the depot, the Hon. Samuel Alschuler the next Governor of Illinois boarded the train and as he did so three cheers were given to him and the marching club by his fellow citizens.

Immediately upon boarding the train, Mr. Alschuler was escorted through its entire length by Mayor Carter H. Harrison, and upon entering each car the Mayor introduced Mr. Alschuler to its occupants as the next Governor of Illinois and suggested that he be given three cheers and a tiger. Before the words were scarcely out of the Mayors mouth everybody was on their feet and heretofore complied to his request. Mr. Alschuler seemed very much pleased at the warm reception tendered him.

All along the line from Chicago to Burlington thousands of people congregated around the depots and stations to get a glimpse at the members of the club whose coming had been heralded far and near.

Burlington, Iowa, was reached at 8 P. M. where a stop was made until 10 o'clock. Its city officials and the citizens generally turned out in mass to honor and receive the advance guard of Democracy of Cook County. The streets were brilliantly illuminated for the occasion and the beautiful girls attired in their best finery followed the band and club which was led through the streets by the home band.

Grand Marshal James H. Farrell was at his best and the excellent marching of his forces brought forth warm applause from the onlookers. Several of the citizens of Burlington informed us that it was the greatest event which has occurred in that city in many years and that the citizens of Burlington were always ready to greet the members of the Cook County Democracy.

Tuesday morning about 9 o'clock with banners flying. The train rolled into the Union depot at Kansas City and it was met by chief Hayes and the Kansas City Marching Club. As soon as the procession could be formed, the march began through many of the principal streets and the music from De Baugh's Band of 60 pieces woke up the town. Marshall Farrell never looked better nor felt better than he did on this occasion and we know he could not help from feeling proud and gratified over the enthusiastic reception tendered to the club by the vast concourse of people who witnessed its marching, and it is admitted by all that no other club visiting Kansas City during the convention was drilled as well, marched as well or was composed of finer and nobler looking men, than the Cook County Marching Club.

In addition to their rich and elaborate badges, each one wore a souvenir badge with the seal of the State of Illinois was Chicago engraved upon it which was presented to the Cook County Democracy by the Gershy Mfg. Company, Chicago.

Much consideration was shown us by the members of the club and Captain Farrell, Secretary R. E. Burke and their assistants left no stone unturned in looking after the wants and com-

forts of those composing the party and we feel safe in saying that none who accompanied it regrets at having made the trip. For it was certainly highly enjoyable and the club has plucked new laurels to entwine around its reputation as being the most famous marching club in the world.

THE LEGISLATIVE CONVENTION.

Saturday, June 30, the Watita League club rooms were filled with delegates who were in attendance at the legislative convention. Thomas Vaughn, a delegate from the 30th ward, spoke as follows, in favor of the nomination of John E. Doyle:

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the convention. Only a few moments ago at the request of a number of the delegates from the various primary districts, I consented to place in nomination for Representative, one of the most worthy and brilliant young democrats in the 30th ward.

He has been a loyal and tireless partyman—always true to the party and the precepts of Democracy, and yet he never sought or received a political favor, until prevailed upon to make the race for this nomination.

My friends, you will not be obliged to introduce him, as he is a native born, I might say, in the district, already well and favorably known to every Democrat within its boundary lines.

He is a clean-cut businessman—with a business reputation to sustain, and stands for good government and all the principles which good citizens hold dear.

He is an allround favorite with the young element of the party, and it is no wonder, because, he lacks none of the sagacity and practical understanding so essential to the success and greatness of a statesman.

He is the right man to send to Springfield, as he will feel equally obligated to all the people of the district, and will command the votes and support of the respectable—regardless of party. He has no political debts to pay and will be found the ceaseless reputation of all and the enemy of none.

My friends—if service is to be recognized; if loyalty to the party is to receive its reward—place upon your ticket, for representative from this district, the name of John E. Doyle and victory is assured.

NOTICE.

We will not resume our review of "The Political Parties and the Negro" nor publish "Facts for Afro-Americans" until the next issue of The Broad Ax.

CHIPS.

Mrs. L. A. Davis has been on the sick list for the past week, but she is now rapidly improving.

John J. Feely has received the nomination for Congressman in the Second Congressional District, and we wish to assure Mr. Feely that he will receive the support of the Broad Ax.

Mayor Carter H. Harrison, won new honors for himself while in attendance at the national convention. He was a member of the committee on resolutions and no member of it worked any harder than Mayor Harrison.

Among the number of beautiful Afro-American women whom we met while visiting Kansas City none left a better impression on our mind than Miss Maggie L. Robinson who is one of Kansas Cities most popular school teachers.

Hon. M. J. Butler, was named for State Senator from the 4th Senatorial District by the senatorial convention which was held at the Watita Club recently. The 4th Senatorial District has no stronger or better Democrat in it than M. J. Butler and he will be elected.

Mrs. Geo. E. Taylor of Okaloosa, Iowa, accompanied her husband to the Kansas City Convention and in company with Mrs. Ben McKay whom we had the pleasure of being presented to attended a number of sessions of the convention. Mrs. Taylor is well educated and being handsome she possesses all the qualifications which go to make up a true woman.